

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A system for storing messages using multiple communication modalities,
- 2 the system comprising:
- 3 (A) a standard telephone system;
- 4 (B) a standard legacy voicemail system;
- 5 (C) a digital voicemail store configured to receive digitized messages, the digital
- 6 voicemail store further being configured to store digitized messages;
- 7 (D) a network access server (NAS) comprising:
- 8 (D1) an NAS analog voice port communicatively coupled to the standard
- 9 telephone system, the NAS analog voice port being configured to receive
- 10 analog voice signals from the standard telephone system;
- 11 (D2) an analog-to-digital (A/D) converter configured to digitize the analog
- 12 voice signals; and
- 13 (D3) an NAS digital port configured to transmit the digitized signals; and
- 14 (E) a digital messaging server (DMS) comprising:
- 15 (E1) a DMS digital port communicatively coupled to the NAS digital port, the
- 16 DMS digital port further being communicatively coupled to the digital
- 17 voicemail store, the DMS digital port being configured to receive the
- 18 digitized signals from the NAS digital port, the DMS digital port further
- 19 being configured to convey the digitized message to the digital voicemail
- 20 store;
- 21 (E2) a digital-to-analog (D/A) converter configured to convert the digitized
- 22 signal into an analog message; and
- 23 (E3) a DMS analog port communicatively coupled to the standard legacy

24 voicemail system, the DMS analog voice port being configured to convey
25 the analog message to the standard legacy voicemail system.

1 2. A system for storing messages using multiple communication modalities,
2 the system comprising:
3 means for receiving a first communication using a first standard communication
4 protocol;
5 means for converting the first communication to a second communication, the
6 second communication being compatible with a second standard communication
7 protocol; and
8 means for storing the first communication; and
9 means for separately storing the second communication.

1 3. A system for storing messages using multiple communication modalities,
2 the system comprising:
3 a messaging server configured to receive a first message, the messaging server
4 further being configured to convert the first message to a second message, the first
5 message being compatible with a first standard communication protocol, the second
6 message being compatible with a second standard communication protocol;
7 a first communication system configured to store the first message; and
8 a second communication system configured to store the second message.

1 4. The system of claim 3, wherein the messaging server is further configured
2 to receive a voice signal and digitize the voice signal.

1 5. The system of claim 4, wherein the first communication system is a legacy
2 voicemail system configured to store the voice signal.

1 6. The system of claim 4, wherein the second communication system is a
2 digital voicemail store configured to store the digitized voice signal.

1 7. The system of claim 4, wherein the second communication system is an
2 email system configured to store an email message having the digitized voice signal.

1 8. The system of claim 4, wherein the second communication system is an
2 instant messaging (IM) system configured to store the digitized voice signal as an IM
3 message.

1 9. A method for storing messages using multiple communication modalities,
2 the method comprising the steps of:
3 receiving a voice signal;
4 digitizing the voice signal;
5 storing the voice signal in a legacy voicemail system; and
6 storing the digitized voice signal in a digital voicemail store.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein the step of digitizing the voice signal
2 occurs substantially synchronously with the receiving of the voice signal.

1 11. The method of claim 9, wherein the step of storing the voice signal occurs
2 substantially synchronously with the receiving of the voice signal.

1 12. The method of claim 9, wherein the step of storing the digitized voice
2 signal occurs substantially synchronously with the digitizing of the voice signal.

1 13. A method for storing messages using multiple communication modalities,
2 the method comprising the steps of:

3 receiving a first communication from a first communication system, the first
4 communication system being configured to communicate using a first standard
5 communication protocol;

6 converting the first communication to a second communication, the second
7 communication being compatible with a second standard communication protocol; and

8 storing the first communication; and

9 separately storing the second communication.

1 14. The method of claim 13, wherein the step of receiving the first
2 communication comprises the step of receiving an analog voice signal over a public
3 switched telephone network (PSTN) telephone system.

1 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the step of storing the first
2 communication comprises the step of storing the analog voice signal in a legacy
3 voicemail system.

1 16. The method of claim 14, wherein the step of converting the first
2 communication to the second communication comprises the step of digitizing the
3 received analog voice signal.

1 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the step of separately storing the second
2 communication comprises the step of storing the digitized voice signal in a digital
3 voicemail store.

1 18. The method of claim 16, wherein the step of separately storing the second
2 communication comprises the steps of:
3 generating an email message;
4 attaching the digitized voice signal to the email message; and
5 transmitting the email message.

1 19. The method of claim 16, wherein the step of separately storing the second
2 communication comprises the steps of:
3 establishing an instant messaging (IM) session; and
4 conveying the digitized voice signal over the established IM session.

1 20. The method of claim 13, wherein the step of receiving the first
2 communication comprises the step of receiving a voice signal over a cellular telephone
3 system.

1 21. The method of claim 20, wherein the step of storing the first
2 communication comprises the step of storing the voice signal in a voicemail system.

1 22. The method of claim 20, wherein the step of converting the first
2 communication to the second communication comprises the steps of generating an email
3 message having the voice signal.

1 23. The method of claim 22, wherein the step of separately storing the second
2 communication comprises the step of transmitting the email message having the voice
3 signal.

1 24. The method of claim 13, wherein the step of converting the first
2 communication to the second communication occurs substantially synchronously with the
3 receiving of the first communication.

1 25. The method of claim 13, wherein the step of storing the first
2 communication occurs substantially synchronously with the step of receiving the first
3 communication.

1 26. The method of claim 13, wherein the step of storing the second
2 communication occurs substantially synchronously with the step of converting the first
3 communication to the second communication.